

(7) the Department of Defense should—

(A) continue robust, comprehensive investment in Baltic security efforts consistent with the assessment described in paragraph (4);

(B) continue efforts to enhance interoperability among Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania and in support of North Atlantic Treaty Organization efforts;

(C) encourage infrastructure and other host-country support improvements that will enhance United States and allied military mobility across the region;

(D) invest in efforts to improve resilience to hybrid threats and cyber defenses in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania; and

(E) support planning and budgeting efforts of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania that are regionally synchronized.

SA 3946. Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . REAUTHORIZATION OF SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS.

(a) SBIR.—Section 9(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(m)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2022” and inserting “September 30, 2023”.

(b) STTR.—Section 9(n)(1)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(n)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “2022” and inserting “2023”.

SA 3947. Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10 ____ . DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PILOT PROGRAM ON USE OF ALTERNATIVE CREDIT SCORING INFORMATION OR CREDIT SCORING MODELS.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall commence carrying out a pilot program that will assess the feasibility and advisability of—

(A) using alternative credit scoring information or credit scoring models using alternative credit scoring methodology for an individual described in paragraph (2)—

(i) to improve the determination of creditworthiness of such an individual; and

(ii) to increase the number of such individuals who are able to obtain a loan guaranteed or insured under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code; and

(B) in consultation with such entities as the Secretary considers appropriate, establishing criteria for acceptable commercially available credit scoring models to be used by lenders for the purpose of guaranteeing or insuring a loan under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED.—An individual described in this paragraph is a veteran or a member of the Armed Forces who—

(A) is eligible for a loan under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code; and

(B) has an insufficient credit history for a lender or the Secretary to determine the creditworthiness of the individual.

(3) ALTERNATIVE CREDIT SCORING INFORMATION.—Alternative credit scoring information described in paragraph (1)(A) may include proof of rent, utility, and insurance payment histories, and such other information as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(b) VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that any participation in the pilot program is voluntary on an opt-in basis for a lender, a borrower, and an individual described in subsection (a)(2).

(2) NOTICE OF PARTICIPATION.—Subject to paragraph (3), any lender who participates in the pilot program shall—

(A) notify each individual described in subsection (a)(2) who, during the pilot program, applies for a loan under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, from such lender, of the lender's participation in the pilot program; and

(B) offer such individual the opportunity to participate in the pilot program.

(3) LIMITATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish a limitation on the number of individuals and lenders that may participate in the pilot program.

(B) REPORT.—If the Secretary limits participation in the pilot program under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall, not later than 15 days after establishing such limitation, submit to Congress a report setting forth the reasons for establishing such limitation.

(c) APPROVAL OF CREDIT SCORING MODELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A lender participating in the pilot program may not use a credit scoring model under subsection (a)(1)(A) until the Secretary has reviewed and approved such credit scoring model for purposes of the pilot program.

(2) PUBLICATION OF CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register any criteria established under subsection (a)(1)(B) for acceptable commercially available credit scoring models that use alternative credit scoring information described in subsection (a)(1)(A) to be used for purposes of the pilot program.

(3) CONSIDERATIONS; APPROVAL OF CERTAIN MODELS.—In selecting credit scoring models to approve under this section, the Secretary shall—

(A) consider the criteria for credit score assessments under section 1254.7 of title 12, Code of Federal Regulations; and

(B) approve any commercially available credit scoring model that has been approved pursuant to section 302(b)(7) of the Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act (12 U.S.C. 1717(b)(7)) or section 305(d) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(d)).

(d) OUTREACH.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall conduct outreach to lenders and individuals described in subsection (a)(2) to inform such persons of the pilot program.

(e) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the pilot program.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The findings of the Secretary with respect to the feasibility and advisability of using alternative credit scoring information or credit scoring models using alternative credit scoring methodology for individuals described in subsection (a)(2).

(B) A description of the efforts of the Secretary to assess the feasibility and advisability of using alternative credit scoring information or credit scoring models as described in subparagraph (A).

(C) To the extent practicable, the following:

(i) The rate of participation in the pilot program.

(ii) An assessment of whether participants in the pilot program benefitted from such participation.

(D) An assessment of the effect of the pilot program on the subsidy rate for loans guaranteed or insured by the Secretary under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code.

(E) Such other information as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(f) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall complete the pilot program required by subsection (a)(1) not later than September 30, 2025.

(2) EFFECT ON LOANS AND APPLICATIONS.—The termination of the pilot program under paragraph (1) shall not affect a loan guaranteed, or for which loan applications have been received by a participating lender, on or before the date of the completion of the pilot program.

(g) INSUFFICIENT CREDIT HISTORY DEFINED.—In this section, the term “insufficient credit history”, with respect to an individual described in subsection (a)(2), means that the individual does not have a credit record with one of the national credit reporting agencies or such credit record contains insufficient credit information to assess creditworthiness.

SA 3948. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SEC. 576. MILITARY TRAINING ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) INTEGRATING DIGITAL SKILL SETS AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING INTO MILITARY JUNIOR LEADER EDUCATION.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps shall expand the curriculum for military junior leader education to incorporate appropriate training material related to problem definition and curation, a conceptual understanding of the artificial intelligence lifecycle, data collection and management, probabilistic reasoning and data visualization, and data-informed decision-making. Whenever possible, the new training and education should include the use of existing artificial intelligence-enabled systems and tools.

(b) INTEGRATION OF MATERIAL ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES INTO PROFESSIONAL MILITARY

EDUCATION.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shall ensure that the curriculum for professional military education is revised in each of the military services to incorporate periodic courses on militarily significant emerging technologies that increasingly build the knowledge base, vocabulary, and skills necessary to intelligently analyze and utilize emerging technologies in the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of warfighting and warfighting support.

(c) EMERGING TECHNOLOGY-CODED BILLETS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the military services—

(A) code appropriate billets to be filled by emerging technology-qualified officers; and

(B) develop a process for officers to become qualified in emerging technologies.

(2) **APPROPRIATE POSITIONS.**—Emerging technology-coded positions may include, as appropriate—

(A) positions responsible for assisting with acquisition of emerging technologies;

(B) positions responsible for helping integrate technology into field units;

(C) positions responsible for developing organizational and operational concepts;

(D) positions responsible for developing training and education plans; and

(E) leadership positions at the operational and tactical levels within the military services.

(3) **QUALIFICATION PROCESS.**—The process for qualifying officers for emerging technology-coded billets shall be modeled on a streamlined version of the joint qualification process and may include credit for serving in emerging technology focused fellowships, emerging technology focused talent exchanges, emerging technology focused positions within government, and educational courses focused on emerging technologies.

SA 3949. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(2) **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.**—The term “artificial intelligence” has the meaning given the term in section 238(g) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (10 U.S.C. 2358 note).

(3) **COVERED ENTITY.**—The term “covered entity” means a small business concern that is incorporated and maintains a primary place of business in the United States.

(4) **SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.**—The term “small business concern” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act,

the Administrator shall establish a program to support participation by covered entities in meetings and proceedings of standards development organizations in the development of voluntary technical standards.

(c) **ACTIVITIES.**—In carrying out the program established under subsection (b), the Administrator shall award competitive, merit-reviewed grants to covered entities to cover the reasonable costs, up to a specified ceiling, of participation of employees of those covered entities in meetings and proceedings of standards development organizations, including—

(1) regularly attending meetings;

(2) contributing expertise and research;

(3) proposing new work items; and

(4) volunteering for leadership roles such as a convener or editor.

(d) **AWARD CRITERIA.**—The Administrator may only provide a grant under this section to a covered entity that—

(1) demonstrates deep technical expertise in key emerging technologies and technical standards, including artificial intelligence and related technologies;

(2) commits personnel with such expertise to regular participation in international bodies responsible for developing standards for such technologies over the period of the grant; and

(3) agrees to participate in efforts to coordinate between the Federal Government and industry to ensure protection of national security interests in the setting of international standards.

(e) **NO MATCHING CONTRIBUTION.**—A recipient of an award under this section shall not be required to provide a matching contribution.

(f) **EVALUATION.**—In making awards under this section, the Administrator shall coordinate with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, who shall provide support in the assessment of technical expertise in emerging technologies and standards setting needs.

(g) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter \$1,000,000 to carry out the program established under this section.

SA 3950. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. DUCKWORTH, Mr. TOOMEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X of division A, add the following:

SEC. 10 ____ WILLIAM T. COLEMAN, JR., FEDERAL BUILDING DESIGNATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The headquarters building of the Department of Transportation located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, in Washington, DC, shall be known and designated as the “William T. Coleman, Jr., Federal Building”.

(b) **REFERENCES.**—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “William T. Coleman, Jr., Federal Building”.

SA 3951. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 853 and insert the following:
SEC. 853. DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO OPTICAL FIBER FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PURPOSES.

(a) **DETERMINATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall review access, metro, and long-haul passive optical fiber and optical fiber cable that is manufactured or produced by an entity owned or controlled by the People's Republic of China for potential inclusion on the list of covered communications equipment pursuant to section 2 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601).

(2) **APPLICABILITY.**—If the Secretary of Defense makes a determination that any such optical fiber or optical fiber cable would pose an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States or the security and safety of United States persons and should be included on the list, any such inclusion shall apply to such optical fiber or optical fiber cable deployed after such determination.

(b) **NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the findings of the review and determination required under subsection (a).

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) The term “access” means optical fiber and optical fiber cable that connects subscribers (residential and business) and radio sites to a service provider.

(2) The term “long haul” means optical fiber and optical fiber cable that connects cities and metropolitan areas.

(3) The term “metro” means optical fiber and optical fiber cable that connects city business districts and central city and suburban areas.

(4) The term “passive” means unpowered optical fiber and optical fiber cable.

SA 3952. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SEC. ____ PROHIBITION ON OPERATION OR PROCUREMENT OF CERTAIN FOREIGN-MADE UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.

(a) **PROHIBITION ON AGENCY OPERATION OR PROCUREMENT.**—Except as provided in subsection (b) and subsection (c)(3), the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security may not operate, provide financial assistance for, or enter into or renew a contract for the procurement of—